



## *Report to the Auburn City Council*

Action Item

Agenda Item No.

13

*[Signature]*  
City Manager's Approval

**To:** Mayor and City Council Members  
**From:** Mike Holmes, City Councilor  
**Prepared by:** Amy M. Lind, Deputy/Assistant City Clerk  
**Date:** June 13, 2011  
**Subject:** City Charter Hearings and Testimony

### **The Issue**

Shall the City Council have separate Study Sessions to consider the placement of a draft city charter on the June 2012 ballot?

### **Conclusion and Recommendation**

That the City Council conduct Study Sessions on Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, Monday July 18<sup>th</sup>, and Monday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, to consider the placement of a draft city charter on the June 2012 ballot.

### **Background**

The consideration of a city charter for the City of Auburn is a major step for the city which was incorporated for a second time in 1888. This is not an issue which should be taken lightly without thoughtful discussion and consideration of the views of our constituents. While it is important to receive reports from each department of the city on its current function and budget to consider adoption of more efficient delivery of services to our residents, to include public comment regarding a city charter during a regular city council meeting will mix the charter issue with other important council actions and, possibly, extend those meetings into late in the evening.

Since the council has not supported an ad hoc charter development committee composed of interested residents, we need a more open, transparent method for charter consideration. Separate Study Sessions in the charter issue will permit the council to focus on that issue alone.

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